

HAIG LINE HOLDS AGAINST GERMANS

OTTAWA FUEL BOARD ORGANIZED; TAKES OVER THE LOCAL SITUATION

E. C. SWIFT AND C. P.
TAYLOR LOCAL
MEMBERS
GET COAL CENSUS

LELAND MAN IS THIRD MEMBER
OF BODY—SITUATION HERE,
WHILE STILL SERIOUS, SHOWS
SLIGHT EASING TODAY.

Working effectively and with excellent results, Ottawa's fuel board, appointed recently by Administrator John E. Williams, of Streator, is organized for its functions with E. C. Swift as chairman, Charles P. Taylor, of Ottawa, and W. V. Strong, of LaSalle, as members. Headquarters for the board have been established in Ottawa, from where all operations to relieve the coal situation will be handled under the supervision of Mr. Swift and Mr. Taylor.

The present coal stringency is one of the serious propositions the board is now attacking. It is leading all its efforts, according to a statement issued by Mr. Swift, to the Free Trader-Journal, to supplying fuel for those districts where a serious shortage is now being felt.

"Before we do anything else," said Mr. Swift, "we first must see that people of our district are furnished with sufficient fuel to keep them warm, and that is what we are now trying to do. We have handled one or two such situations already and have disposed of several complaints along that line," he ended.

The local fuel board has no jurisdiction over the fixing of coal prices, as that important phase of the proposition is taken care of by the administrator, whose duties it is to establish rates for the state. The duties of the boards are circumscribed, being narrowed down to a certain number of peremptory rules which must be followed.

One of the principal perquisites of the Ottawa board will be to keep trace of the fuel supply and to prevent, if possible, hoarding.

The Ottawa district is comprised of all the townships north of the Illinois river and east of the western tier of county towns. Mendota and LaSalle are under the supervision of a separate board.

See Relief in Sight.

While the shortage in Ottawa branches almost the point of being a famine, the situation clarified itself slightly this morning by the receipt of a couple of cars of soft coal this morning by one dealer. These cars contained about eighty tons, enough for that one dealer's patrons for twenty-four hours. Other dealers report cars on the way and are expecting them momentarily and by Monday they have hopes for the stringency coming to an end, the no hope is entertained that they will be able to supply their patrons in quantities larger than one ton at a time for days and more than likely, weeks to come.

MAC DRAFT LOCATED AT FIRE STATION

Mae Draft, who is in the city cleaning chimneys and doing mighty good work in reducing the city's fire hazard, has his established headquarters at the fire station, where appointments for his services can be made by calling Main 50. Mae Draft is operating in conjunction with the fire department in his work.

BANK ROBBERS GET \$15,000 AT LA GRANGE

Chicago, Dec. 13.—Working in a blinding snow storm that enabled them to escape without leaving a trace behind them, bank robbers staged two daring holdups shortly before noon near Chicago today.

Four men in an automobile held up the La Grange state bank, locked the cashier in a vault and escaped with \$15,000.

A lone robber armed with a rifle, locked the manager and a clerk of the Bruno Pinkert private bank in Cicero, a suburb, in a vault and escaped with \$900.

REPORT PURCHASE OF FORMHALLS BLDG. BY STANDARD OIL CO.

RUMORS CLAIM DEAL HAS BEEN
CLOSED, THOUGH NO ADMIS-
SIONS ARE MADE BY PARTIES
TO EITHER SIDE OF TRANS-
ACTION.

Though persistently denied by parties of both sides of the transaction, rumors just as persistent stoutly maintain that a deal has been consummated which will upset many plans that have been made heretofore for the Formhalls building at the corner of Main and Columbus streets.

Stories in circulation for several days that the three-story wagon shop had been sold to Standard Oil company, and will be transformed into a service station for the retailing of gas and oils for motor use include the closing of the deal and the exchange of purchase money, but are not vouchsafed by either representatives of Mr. Formhalls or of the S. O. Co.

That the deal has been in pendency for some time was not denied by local representatives of the Rockefeller interests, but the only satisfaction that could be garnered was "Well tell you when the deal is swung." Joseph Formhalls, owner of the building before its transfer, could not be reached to verify the rumors while Emil Formhalls, his partner in the wagon business, plead no knowledge of the deal. He said he could neither deny nor confirm the reports.

Sought by Others.

The building, one of the loop's landmarks and one of its most modern structures in the earlier days, has been sought by several different interests in the past few years. For a while the interurban contemplated the purchase and construction of a modern depot and freight house there, but that deal was knocked in the head when a Main street franchise was refused after several vain attempts to send their cars straight through town instead of on Madison street as at the present. Others were on the market at different times for the corner, and the closing of the recent sale, if it is closed, precludes the possibilities of any of these interests obtaining possession of the coveted structure.

Probably Will be Wrecked.

Should the Standard Oil company take over the building, the brick structure probably will be raised and a modern service station constructed, similar to those erected in many other cities of the central west. Only the sale of gasoline and oils by retail will be undertaken there.

MISS BARTH JOINS AMERICAN RED CROSS

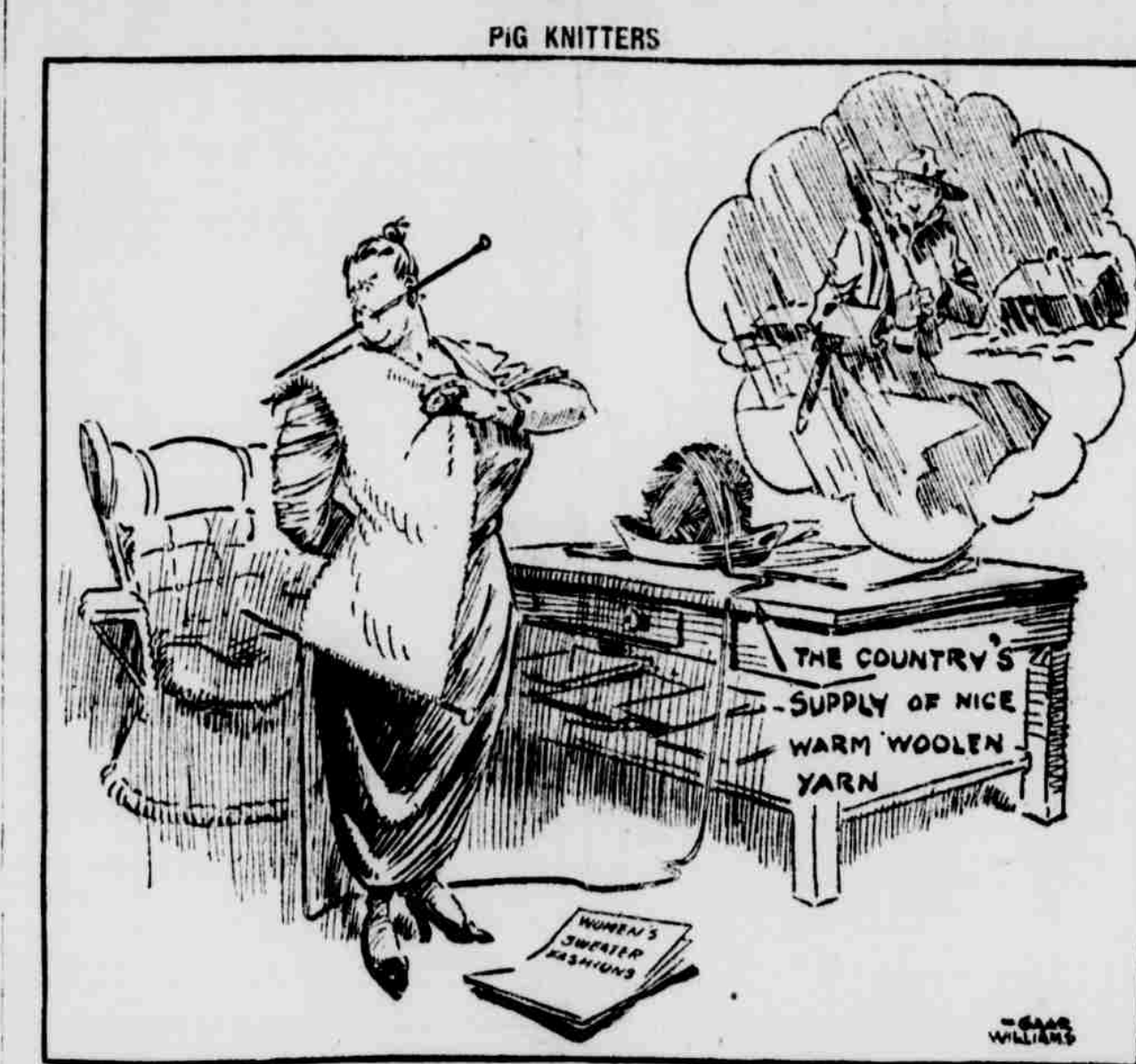
Official notification of the acceptance of Miss Alice Barth, a graduate nurse of Ryburn hospital as a Red Cross nurse arrived in the city today. Miss Barth enlisted as a Red Cross nurse several weeks ago, but her official notification only reached here today. The notification was in the form of the government card, and her official badge, that can be worn only by accepted government nurses.

Each nurse has a number that is placed on the back of the badge, and also on the notification card. Miss Barth is American Red Cross nurse 15742.

STATE QUIZ INTO E. ST. LOUIS BRIBES OFF

Springfield, Dec. 13.—Illinois' sweeping prosecution of East St. Louis politicians is off and the laws of the state are to blame. Attorney General Brundage announced today he has been unable to discover a single statute providing punishment for the alleged bribe givers.

Subscribe for the Free Trader-Journal for results.



There are some of them, but, thank goodness, not many.

—Williams in Indianapolis News.

BLIZZARD REDUCED OPERA COMPANY JACKIES TO ARRIVE AT TODAY'S MEETING PLEASES AUDIENCE IN CITY AT 11:20 BOARD ATTENDANCE FRIDAY MORNING

LATE TRAINS BLAMED FOR FAILURE OF MANY LAW-MAKERS TO REACH OTTAWA—NAME MINE INSPECTOR WITHOUT ANY CONTEST.

Snow, blizzard winds, and belated railway trains cut the attendance at this morning's meeting of the board of supervisors to a point where there was not much more than a quorum present. In respect for the absent brothers, the session was made as brief as possible. After hearing a few reports and electing a county mine inspector, an adjournment was taken to Friday morning.

John O'Brien, of LaSalle, had no trouble succeeding himself as the county's official representative in the mining industry. He presented his name before the board as a candidate for mine inspector and when an election was called this morning no opposition was found to his candidacy. His election to this important post was made by acclamation.

Some of the supervisors thought out of deference to the members who could not be in attendance, that the election should be held over until Friday, but when it was shown O'Brien had no opposition, a vote was ordered and the LaSallean went thru a whirling. Unfortunately for the law-makers, the candidate was not "among those present" to pass the customary box of cigars. Whether that was by accident or design, boosters for O'Brien did not state.

County Judge Mayo is in need of a new typewriter, the old one being in exceedingly bad condition. This morning he asked for a new machine for his office and the request was referred to the committee on court-house and jail.

Circuit Clerk Whitman reported \$4,105.86 earnings and a net balance due to the county \$196.29, from the six months just ended. Surplus earnings of the office in that period were \$1,172.29.

Recorder Buchner reported \$3,998.85 in earnings and expenses of \$2,831.35 in six months, leaving a balance of \$267.50 coming to the county.

D. A. R. SHIPS JELLIES TO ILL. CANTONMENT

Hini Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, shipped this morning to the base hospital at Camp Grant, 51 glasses and 39 pints of jelly. Many of the women of the city contributed jelly to this collection and the members of the D. A. R. take this occasion of extending their thanks for this jelly.

MONTAGUE GROUP DELIGHTS LYCEUM ENTHUSIASTS AT O. H. S. RECITAL—PROGRAM EXCEPTIONALLY WELL RENDERED.

Only a small audience greeted the Montague Light Opera company in their appearance at the high school last night. The company was made up of musicians of great ability and their program was a rare musical treat.

The company is composed of Miss Altha Montague, contralto, read and accompanist; Miss Edna Reynolds, lyric soprano; Hayden P. Thomas, bass and accompanist; and John Eichenberger, tenor. The solo parts taken by these talented musicians was equally as good as the quartette selections. On particularly pleasing thing about the program last night was the perfect announcement of each member of the company, and the clearness of tone that reached to each part of the large auditorium.

The first number on the program, won an encore and after that the audience could not be quieted without an encore, for each number. The charming scene from Robin Hood, sung by Miss Reynolds, Mr. Eichenberger and Mr. Thomas, with Miss Montague at the piano, was especially well received; as were the readings of Miss Montague.

The Japanese operetta given as the closing number on the program, was one of the most pleasing things of the kind ever seen in this city. The stage settings and costumes were very dainty and artistic, and the music was good as was the acting of the members of the company. The songs in this operetta were mostly from the operas "Madame Butterfly" and "The Mikado."

The complete program for last night's concert follows:

Quartet, "May Time" (Olney Speaks).
Ensemble, "Sweet and Low."
Soprano and alto duet, "Spanish Folk Song."
Ensemble, "Where My Caravan Has Rosted" (Lohr)—Miss Reynolds, Miss Montague.

Bass solo, "Myself When Young" from "The Persian Garden" (Lehman).
Ensemble, "The Big Bass Viol"—Mr. Thomas.

Scene from "Robin Hood" in costume (De Koven).
Ensemble, Modern Version of Nursery Rhymes, from the "Pied Piper"—Entire company.

Tenor character song, from "Nicolini" from the "Red Mill" in costume—Mr. Eichenberger.
Quartet, "Pilgrim's Chorus" (Wagner).
Reading by Miss Montague, a scene from "The Blue Bird" (Maeterlinck).
Ensemble, "Grandmother's Recollections."

Complete operetta, "A Japanese Romance" by the company in costume.

LUNCHEON IN HONOR OF SAILOR LADDIES WILL BE HELD AT CLIFTON HOTEL—CONCERT TO BE RENDERED AT HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM.

The Great Lakes Jackie band will give Ottawa people a real musical treat tomorrow afternoon when they render one of their delightful programs at the high school auditorium at 2:30 o'clock.

The coming of this great musical organization is heralded with a much delight and satisfaction by those who have heard or read of John Phillip Sousa, the world's best known music master, who promises to be here with his band of artists. Assurances were sent out yesterday to the local secretary of the War Savings Fund campaign that Sousa positively would be here.

There is absolutely no charge for admission to this concert and the people of this community are most cordially invited to take advantage of this rare musical treat.

The band will arrive in Ottawa at 11:20 o'clock in their own special Pullman over the Burlington road and will be met at the station by a committee from the Chamber of Commerce and escorted to the Clifton, where a luncheon will be served promptly at 11:50 o'clock in the grill room.

It was originally planned to have the high school, the Chamber of Commerce and other organizations meet the distinguished visitors at the depot, but the bad weather will not permit the carrying out of the plan and the parade feature will be abandoned. The high school cadets, however, will escort the band from the Clifton to the high school auditorium.

Mr. Nolan, one of the big talkers of Chicago, will deliver an address in the afternoon that will be well worth listening to. There will be no reserved seats in the auditorium so that the early comers may enjoy the privileges of the best seats.

It is an unusual opportunity for Ottawa people to enjoy the privilege of seeing the great Sousa and it is confidently expected that the auditorium will be filled to its capacity tomorrow afternoon.

The band is expected to leave on the interurban road for Streator, where a concert will be given there in the evening.

Mrs. McMullen Funeral.
Funeral services for Mrs. J. W. McMullen will be held tomorrow afternoon at 1:30 at the residence, 1294 Ottawa avenue. Burial will be in Ottawa Avenue cemetery.

TEUTONS FAIL IN DRIVE ON BRITISH

London, Dec. 13.—Three heavy attacks were delivered against the British on the Cambrai front during Wednesday but all were repulsed, the war office announced today.

\$10,042 IN PAUPER CLAIMS ARE PAID BY SOLONS TODAY

LIST FOR COUNTY RELIEF JUMPS
TO HIGH MARK—THIRTEEN
TOWNSHIPS EXPEND NO MONEY
AMONG POOR DURING THE
QUARTER.

Whether the zero blasts of the past six or seven days were responsible for the jump in pauper claims to be paid by the county, or whether the war is to blame was not brought out this morning when the supervisors were asked to settle for \$10,042.85 obligated upon them by their solons in the last three months. The fact remains none the less true that the claims were there and they were ordered settled for.

LaSalle leads the list with \$2,289.75, while Streator is second with \$2,070.38. Ottawa brings up the rear of the Class A cities with only \$1,529.40 in claims. Peru is only a short distance behind Ottawa in expenditures for pauper aids.

Brookfield, Deer Park, Farm Ridge, Freedom, Grand Rapids, Meriden, Miller, Northville, Ophir, Osage, Vermilion, Wallace and Waltham, thirteen townships in all, presented no claims for the three months just ended.

The list, showing the apportionment of the vast sum, among the remaining twenty-four townships of the county, follows:

Adams	\$1765.00
Allen	278.50
Dayton	61.11
Dimmick	16.50
Eagle	215.25
Earl	60.90
Eden	208.16
Fall River	6.00
Groveland	65.90
Hope	17.20
LaSalle	2289.75
Manlius	292.32
Mendota	585.67
Mission	239.92
Ottawa	1529.40
Outer Creek	54.00
Pera	1112.45
Richland	49.35
Rutland	36.55
Serenia	28.00
South Ottawa	182.55
Troy Grove	75.70
Utica	112.34
Township physicians	497.85
Total	\$10,042.85

DISTRICT BOARD COMPILES RESULTS OF INITIAL DRAFT

The official statement from the district draft exemption board showing the results of the first of all boards in this district, has been compiled. The following is the complete data on the quota of men from the Ottawa district, the number registered, the number called for examination and the number of exemptions applied for and granted by the appeal board in Chicago:

Quota of LaSalle county, district No. 1, 262.
No. of men called, 1,549.
Failed to submit to examination, 22.
Called and not exempted or discharged, 448.
Called and exempted or discharged, 579.
Certified by district board of service, 244.
Industrial claims allowed, 3.
Industrial claims not allowed, 13.
Agricultural claims allowed, 70.
Agricultural claims not allowed, 70.
Appeals undecided, 1.
Appeals allowed, 30.
Appeals not allowed, 18.
Presidential appeals not allowed, 9.
Presidential appeals allowed, 0.
Presidential appeals undecided, 18.

office announced today.

The fighting centered around Bullecourt. Two powerful assaults were directed against the points supporting the northern end of the Hindenburg line. Although the shock was a tremendous one, tried out by masses of picked German troops, the British front held firm. A third time the Germans swarmed forward in a dashing attack against the same position. Some of the troops succeeded in breaking through, but they captured no ground. Unable to advance or retreat the Germans that got through were killed or captured.

Fleet Joins Bolsheviks.

Copenhagen, Dec. 13.—The Russian Black Sea fleet has joined the Bolshevik forces, according to information received this afternoon from Petrograd. The fleet is reported to have entered the sea of Azov and fired upon Cossacks that were engaged near the mouth of the river Don.

The prospect of a separate peace for Russia and Rumania loomed nearer today in consequence of reports from Petrograd that the Cossacks have been defeated in battle by the Bolshevik forces near Bielekorod.

The patriot army was said to be surrounded and its chief leader, General Korniloff, wounded.

The Bolshevik government claims that the Cossack revolution is being crushed.

This information, however, has all come thru channels controlled by the Bolsheviks and there is a possibility that it may be misleading.

Turkey Ready to Quit.

Berne, Dec. 13.—Growing under invasion and her war burden, Turkey is about ready to make a separate peace, according to an article in the Swiss press today. It is reported that a delegate sent to this city to confer relative to the exchange of war prisoners, has asked the Turkish government for authority to open peace negotiations.

Artillery Duels Rages.

Paris, Dec. 13.—A gigantic artillery duel is raging all along the French front. The war office this afternoon stated that the guns were roaring at all points.

Plan Extended Armistice.

Berlin, Dec. 13.—Negotiations for an extended armistice on the eastern front to replace the temporary truce, was begun today. It was officially announced here.

EXPLOSION BURNS OPERATOR OF TORCH AND FIRES HOME

An explosion caused by a blow torch, resulted in Gus Bronko, a diamond setter at the Federal Plate glass factory, suffering burns about the face and hands and a \$50 fire at his home, 839 Lafayette street at 7:30 o'clock this morning. Bronko was using the torch to heat some metals when an explosion followed. He was working in the bath room, the walls catching fire and the flames reaching his face and hands.

The department was not summoned as Bronko extinguished the blaze without assistance from the city fighting force. The house is owned by Frank Hartorn. Bronko's burns were not serious enough to necessitate his removal to the hospital.

CAPT. PALMER GOES TO SPARTENBURG CAMP

Tonight Captain W. B. Palmer leaves for Spartenburg, South Carolina, where he will take charge of the government remount station, after several months service at Chillicothe, Ohio. Captain Palmer spent the past few days with his family in this city, before taking up his new post.

He reports the Ottawa boys at Chillicothe as all doing well, pleased with their work, and in the best of health. He has Cotton King, his famous bay rider with him and will take him to the South Carolina Cantonment. He reported he did not believe any of the boys at Chillicothe would be able to get home for Christmas.